

Paper alone not enough: Salahuddin

Unimas Sun. 5 Aug '07 P2

By Vijaya Menon

KOTA SAMARAHAN: Paper qualification is not sufficient to guarantee success in the working world, said Head of State Tun Datuk Patinggi Abang Muhammad Salahuddin.

He said graduates needed to be equipped with knowledge, soft skills and good personality to do well in their working life.

"Graduates must continuously seek knowledge and improve themselves. Besides, they must also have good etiquette and moral to be successful," he said when officiating at the Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) 11th convocation here yesterday.

A total of 1,564 students graduated from Unimas this year and they included 134 post-graduate and three doctorate candidates.

Looking at the increase in numbers of graduate each year, Salahuddin who is also Unimas chancellor believed that Unimas had successfully produced skilled man power for the country's employment market.

Earlier, vice-chancellor Datuk Dr Abdul Rashid

Abdullah said the curriculum of the university was developed relevant to the country's needs.

"Since the very beginning of the university, elements of generic development which influence the employability of graduates were introduced in the institution.

"A special entity was established to teach soft skills in the university to prepare students with necessary skills to face the outside world," he said.

He also added that the university had emphasised on the usage of English in its teaching and learning processes and encouraged students to master a third language.

With all these preparation, Rashid was positive that the graduates from the university were now well prepared to enter the working world.

Agreeing with Salahuddin, Rashid said being graduates, students must be able to show their ability, wisdom and positive attitude to compete with other graduates in the similar arena.

Several awards were given to outstanding graduates this



EXCELLENT ACHIEVERS: Zait (left) and Priyalatha posing with their Royal Education Award medals.

year.

Priyalatha Govindasamy from the counselling programme and Zait Aima Yuintzy Yacub from the civil engineering programme received the coveted Royal Education Award.

Nurhidaya Ahmad from the counselling programme received the Chancellor

Award while the Pro-Chancellor Award was awarded to Izora Lim Fung Nie from the tourism programme.

Su Shei Sia, Lee Mee Chea and Henry Goh Chun Hian on the other hand received the Special Senate Award for excellent results throughout their study course.